



#04-100

Contact: Michael Mayor
Public Information Officer
Caltrans - (530) 225-3260

California Department of Transportation
District 2, Redding
Brian Crane, District Director

August 24, 2004

Highway Info - 1-800-427-7623
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Minor Traffic Delays Expected During Holiday Weekend

REDDING – Over the Labor Day weekend, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) expects only minor delays for motorists traveling on the section of Interstate 5 in Shasta County, over the Antlers Bridge (Sacramento River Bridge). The Antlers Bridge crosses the Sacramento River arm of Shasta Lake near the town of Lakehead, 25 miles north of Redding. Construction of a new bridge deck is underway and traffic is restricted to one-lane in each direction. Traffic is expected to peak on Monday, September 6, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the southbound lanes, but with only 5 to 6 minute delays.

Due to the nature and complexity of the work and the limited work area available, expected delays at the bridge during holiday travel can not be completely avoided. However, Caltrans is making every effort to minimize the expected impacts. During the Labor Day weekend on-site personnel will monitor traffic conditions at the bridge, help clear minor incidents and contact appropriate public and private responders in the event of major breakdowns or incidents.

This construction is an interim project to address the wear and tear of the bridge, which was designed and built for two-lane traffic in 1941 and then widened to accommodate four lanes during the construction of Interstate 5. The increase in weight, traffic and number of commercial vehicles has caused undue stress and degraded the entire deck. The deck replacement will preserve the safety and integrity of the existing structure until a new structure is completed in 2012. This bridge deck replacement will also help with worker safety issues due to less needed repairs and less time spent on the bridge conducting maintenance work. The work is in the final phase and is expected to be complete by November of this year.

For more information, please contact the Public Information Office at 530-225-3260.

###

NOTE: An electronic version of this news release is available on the internet at the following web address: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news_releases.htm